

## NEWS.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY of Sciences of Berlin offers a prize of *M* 2000 for a memoir on the origin and characteristics of the varieties of grain during the last twenty years. The manuscript, which may be written in German, Latin, French, English or Italian, must be sent to the Bureau of the Academy (Universitätsstrasse 8, Berlin NW., before Dec. 31, 1898, with name of the writer in sealed envelope. The work must be based upon special experiments and observations.

THE HOPI are one of those interesting tribes which remain as relics in the desert and cañon region of the southwest. Compelled to utilize everything organic that is available, in the paucity of animals they have made a surprisingly complete use of their scanty vegetation. Mr. Walton Hough has made a collection of the Hopi plants, which have been named by Dr. J. N. Rose and published, with their native names and uses, in the *American Anthropologist* for February. It is estimated that there are not over 150 indigenous species in the Hopi environment, northeastern Arizona, but Mr. Hough's collection reveals the fact that about 140 of these are used in agriculture and forage, arts, architecture, domestic life, dress and adornment, folk lore, food, medicine, and religion.

THE PROCLAMATION of President Cleveland setting apart thirteen new forest reserves, representing an area of more than twenty-one million acres is noteworthy. This increases the total reserve forest land in the West to thirty-nine million acres. We quote from *Garden and Forest* in stating that the new reserves include all the central portion of the Black Hills of South Dakota, the Big Horn mountain range in Wyoming, the Jackson lake country south of the National Park in Wyoming, all the Rocky mountains of northern Montana, a valuable forest region in northern Idaho, the principal part of the Bitter Root mountain region in Montana and Idaho, the Cascade mountains of northern and southern Washington, the Sierra summits of California north of the Yosemite National Park, the San Jacinto mountains in southern California, and the Uintah mountains in northern Utah. The selection of these forest lands was made by the commission appointed by the National Academy of Sciences. Since the proclamation strenuous objections have been made by interested inhabitants, so that it is difficult to tell whether it will become operative throughout all the areas indicated.